

Van Meter News



Happy Valentine's Day!!

February 2014

REC COMPLEX UPDATE

The City is excited to announce that we have acquired one of Van Meter's most important resources. Since 2004, the Van Meter Recreational Complex has given residents, families and more importantly the youth of Van Meter and other neighboring cities: little league softball, baseball and soccer fields, as well as a modern concession stand and restrooms, park/picnic area and scenic venue for sports fans.

We studied the recreational facilities of neighboring communities and strive to develop the complex into a premier facility that is focused on meeting the needs of our community by providing outstanding recreational services.

As a city park, it is the responsibility of city staff and boards to operate and manage. An existing group of volun-

teers have offered their assistance this year as we make the transition.

City Administration and the Parks and Rec Board met in January to discuss this exciting new venture. There are still many details to be worked out. It will be a time consuming task and we ask for patience from our patrons as we endeavor to manage the expectations of all stakeholders.

There are three vacancies to fill on the park board. If you want to volunteer your time to continue the tradition of making Van Meter a truly wonderful place to live and play, please visit our website to complete an application.



LITTLE LEAGUE SIGN UP

We receive many calls from area people inquiring about sign up for little league baseball, softball and soccer.

Although the city does not manage these activities we provide registration information on our website at www.cityofvanmeter.com.

The following are representatives to contact:

Baseball—Dan Koster 515-971-8195/ Koster5@q.com or
Softball—email vanmetersoftball@gmail.com

Visit our website at www.vanmeteria.gov

Elected Officials:

Mayor-Allan Adams

Council

-Kim Sacker

Mayor Pro Tem

-Bob Lacy

-Michael Peterson

-Owen Stump

-Beth Tweed



City Staff:

Jake Anderson-

City Administrator

515-954-6094

Liz Thompson-Clerk

515-669-6396

Dave Herman-

Public Works

515-240-9280

Chad Gillespie-

Public Works

515-371-9933

Bill Daggett-

Police Chief

515-202-4154

Jolena Welker-

Library Director

(jwelker@vanmeteria.gov)



Raccoon River Days is June 6th through the 8th and we now accepting nominations for the 2014 theme and Grand Marshall. Suggestions should be emailed to raccoonriverdays@gmail.com by Wednesday February 19th. We will announce the theme and Grand Marshall winner in the March newsletter. Planning meeting coming soon please send an email if you are interested in helping.

Previous themes include Rollin' On The River, Take Me Out To The Ball Game, How The West Was Fun!

Water Leaks—Don't let your money go down the drain!

A slow drip of water can add up quickly. A toilet that “keeps running” after you flush it or a dripping faucet can waste thousands of gallons of water a year— and that costs **money**!



A drip	15 gallons per day	450 gallons per month
1/32 in. leak	264 gallons per day	7,920 gallons per month
1/16 in. leak	943 gallons per day	28,300 gallons per month
1/8 in. leak	3,809 gallons per day	114,200 gallons per month
1/4 in. leak	15,226 gallons per day	456,800 gallons per month

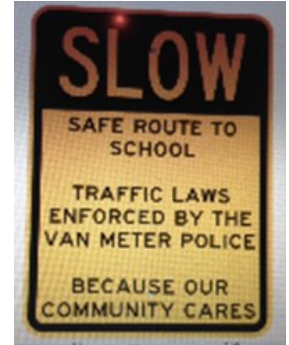
POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS FROM CHIEF DAGGETT

VAN METER POLICE TO POST SIGNS

The Van Meter Police Department through the Safe Routes to Schools Program will be putting out 25 slow we love our children signs and 10 safe routes to school signs. Please help us keep our children safe.

VAN METER PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Public safety is in everyone's interest in a community. As such it is imperative that members of the community be able to give guidance and input into public safety services especially regarding development and implementation of services. The Van Meter Department of Public Safety is seeking board members to serve on an advisory committee. If you are interested please provide a letter of interest to the Director of Public Safety either by email at wdaggett@vanmeteria.gov or in person at city hall. The deadline to receive letters is February 15, 2014.



FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

The Fire Department is in need of individuals looking to make a difference in our community.

The number of volunteers on the department has dropped from previous years..

Please consider what you can do to help.

To become a member of the Fire & Rescue department please apply at Van Meter City Hall.

You may also send inquires to vanmeterfireandrescue@gmail.com or leave a message at 996-9253.



February is one of the deadliest months for heating fires. **Be FIRE smart!**

- Heating equipment is involved in 1 in every 7 reported home fires and 1 in every 6 home fire deaths.
- Keep anything that can burn at least **3 feet from any heat source** like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators, or space heaters.
- Plug only **1 heat-producing appliance** into an electrical outlet at a time.

- Keep portable generators outside, away from windows, and **as far away as possible from your house.**
- Install and test carbon monoxide alarms at least **once a month.**
- Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents **every year.**
- Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container, and keep it outside at least **10 feet** from your home and any nearby buildings.

For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit www.usfa.fema.gov/winter/ and www.nfpa.org/winter/

VALENTINE DINNER



Saturday, February 15, 2014
Veterans Reception Center
Van Meter, IA
Dinner Served at
5pm and 7pm

Prime Rib Dinner

\$20 per person

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Call 515-996-9166

Waukee Big Band performing at
5:15pm and 7:15pm

THURSDAY NIGHT MEALS—VRC

American Legion Post 403
Veterans Reception Center

910 Main Street
 Van Meter IA
 5:30—7:30

Thursday, February 6
 Italian Pasta prepared by Stan Canova
 served with salad & bread

Thursday, February 13
 Pulled Pork Sandwiches prepared by Warren Brott
 served with cheesy potatoes & side salad

Prices:

\$7 for adults, \$5 for kids 6-10, FREE for kids 5 & under



Information printed as of
 January 23, 2014
 Menu subject to change.

How Healthy is Your Home?

The only way to tell if your home has dangerous levels of radon is to test for it. Once detected, homes with high levels of radon can be easily fixed.

Test your home today.

Radon is a colorless, tasteless, and odorless gas that is the second leading cause of lung cancer. Test results for homes in Dallas County showed an average radon level per home of greater than that of smoking ½ a pack of cigarettes per day. Is your family safe? Please contact Dallas County Environmental Health (993-5803) for a \$5.00 radon test kit and information on how to protect your home.

CHECK IT OUT— VAN METER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Contact the library at 515-996-2435 or
jwelker@vanmeteria.gov; mboren@vanmeteria.gov

HAPPY FEBRUARY!

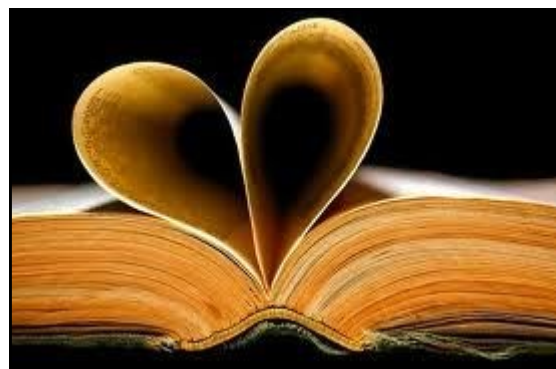


VALENTINE'S DAY, LOVE, President's Day, "Did the Groundhog See His Shadow?"

Hello! I hope everyone had a great January! Be sure to stop in your library and check out the prizes from these Van Meter businesses for the Adult Reading Contest: **b.Organic - Michelle Beschen, Van Meter Vet Clinic- Dr. Isles, Casey's - Brandon, Wells Fargo, E-Bank, Fat Randi's and Integrated Sales - Golwitzers.** When you come in and have read a book from the library or home have us put your name in the container. We will draw for the winners at the end of February. We will ask which prize you want in the order in which Michelle draws the names. We will call or contact the winners to find out which prize is desired. So.... READ, READ, READ! And be sure to thank these business owners when you see them or do business with them.

In March, over **Spring Break**, we will be having a movie, popcorn and pizza party for kids of all ages! I am completing information now but watch the city Facebook page and flyers from the library for details. It will probably be March 21st. So mark it on your calendars! This is back again by very popular demand. :) Thank You! KIDS!

We have added a lot of new and gently used books and DVDs for your kids to check out so be sure to stop in and see what we have to offer. Last time I asked Michelle for a DVD count I know we were at 450. Our library holds over 10,000 items between books, DVDs, Puzzles, games and magazines that can be checked out. Also for those of you that read e-books and listen to audio books check out WILBOR. If you have your own device go to the Overdrive App. Your library offers this and it now adds close to another 14,000 titles! If you need any help let Michelle or Jolena know.



Last but not least, **we want to welcome our newest trustee to the library Board.** Nancy Lacy has been selected to fulfill a term that goes to June, 30, 2016. I am so excited about this. Nancy has always used her library and she has a lot of knowledge on books, library, people, and accounting. Nancy has many other talents too and I feel blessed that she wanted to be on the trustee board. Please tell her Thank you for serving when you see her.

Just think Spring is right around the corner and we have a lot of great gardening books and magazines. We also have a crocheting/knitting group, two book clubs, after school program for the kids and many other activities.

Let Jolena or Michelle know at 996-2435
if you have any questions.

Library Hours

Monday—9a to 5p
Tuesday—4p to 8p
Wednesday—9a to 8p
Thursday—9a to 8p
Friday—9a to 5p
Saturday—9a to Noon

"Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire; it is the time for home" Edith Sitwell



CITY OF VAN METER

505 Grant Street
PO Box 160
Van Meter, IA 50261

Phone: 515-996-2644

Fax: 515-996-2207

Email: info@vanmeteria.gov



SNOW

Public Safety and Public Works thanks you to remove your vehicles and snow promptly.

SNOW REMOVAL. No person shall park or allow a vehicle to remain parked on a public street in the City from the time it begins to snow until such time as the streets have been cleared of accumulated snow from curb to curb (or from all of the traveled portion of the roadway for those streets which do not have curbs) or 48 hours, whichever time is shorter. Vehicles shall be removed immediately once it begins to snow. The Director of Public Works and Utilities is also empowered to end the prohibition on parking prior to the expiration of the 48-hour period if the Director determines that the streets have been cleared. The Director of Public Works and Utilities shall notify the Police Chief when the parking prohibition has ended.



Dumping of Snow. It is unlawful for any person to throw, push, place, or cause to be thrown, pushed or placed, any ice or snow from private property, sidewalks, or driveways onto the traveled way of a street or alley so as to obstruct gutters, or impede the passage of vehicles upon the street or alley or to create a hazardous condition therein; except where, in the cleaning of large commercial drives in the business district it is absolutely necessary to move the snow onto the street or alley temporarily, such accumulation shall be removed promptly by the property owner or agent. Arrangements for the prompt removal of such accumulations shall be made prior to moving the snow.

Removal of Snow, Ice and Accumulations. It is the responsibility of the abutting property owners to remove snow, ice and accumulations promptly from sidewalks. If a property owner does not remove snow, ice or accumulations within 48-hours after such accumulations, the City may do so and assess the costs against the property owner for collection in the same manner as a property tax.

City Code of Ordinances can be found our website or City Hall.



Find us on
Facebook

Recycling Schedule for February 2014

WASTE CONNECTIONS INC.

515-265-7374

Monday, February 10

Monday, February 24

